

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 22 and 23 as set forth in the following listing of the claims.

The allowed claims 30, 33 and 43 remain as allowed without further amendment.

The remaining claims are presented for reconsideration without any further amendment.

1-21 (canceled)

22. (currently amended) An electric motor having a stator and a rotor, with the rotor having at least one permanent magnet and one rotor shaft and with the stator having at least two coils which produce a rotating magnetic field when alternating currents flow through said two coils, by which the rotor is drivable, and the rotor shaft is mounted radially and axially, wherein the rotor (4) is mounted by a first elastic thrust ring and a second elastic thrust ring (1a, 1b), with the first thrust ring (1a) being arranged axially on a first side of the rotor (4) and the second thrust ring (1b) being arranged axially on a second side of the rotor to mount the rotor axially in a floating manner, and wherein at least one of the first and the second sides of the rotor terminates in a flat surface that is perpendicular to an axis of rotation of the rotor and abuts a first surface of a corresponding one of the first and the second thrust rings upon an axial movement of the rotor toward the corresponding one of the thrust rings, and wherein the stator has a flat surface that abuts a second surface of the corresponding thrust ring to oppose the axial movement of the rotor.

23. (currently amended) An electric motor having a stator and a rotor, with the rotor having at least one permanent magnet and one rotor shaft and with the stator having at least two coils which produce a rotating magnetic field when alternating currents flow through said two coils, by which the rotor is drivable, and the rotor shaft is mounted radially and axially, wherein the rotor (4) is mounted by a first thrust ring (1a) arranged axially on one side of the rotor (4), wherein a second thrust ring (1b) is arranged on another side of the rotor (4), and, depending on position of said rotor, the rotor (4) either loads the first or second elastic thrust ring (1a, 1b) continuously, or loads the first and second thrust ring (1a, 1b) alternately, and wherein at least one of the first and the second sides of the rotor terminates in a flat surface that is perpendicular to an axis of rotation of the rotor and abuts a first surface of a corresponding one of the first and the second thrust rings upon an axial movement of the rotor toward the corresponding one of the thrust rings, and wherein the stator has a flat surface that abuts a second surface of the corresponding thrust ring to oppose the axial movement of the rotor.

24. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein the thrust rings (1, 1a, 1b) comprise a rubber-like plastic matrix (2) to one side of which microfibers (3, 3a, 3b) are applied.

25. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 24, wherein the side with the microfibers (3, 3a, 3b) faces the rotor (4).

26. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 24, wherein the microfibers (3, 3a, 3b) are distributed stochastically.

27. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein a lubricant is provided in the thrust rings (1, 1a, 1b).

28. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 27, wherein the lubricant in the thrust rings (1, 1a, 1b) has low viscosity.

29. (previously amended) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein at least the first thrust ring (1a) is arranged in a recess (14) in the stator.

30. (previously amended) An electric motor having a stator and a rotor, with the rotor having at least one permanent magnet and one rotor shaft and with the stator having at least two coils which produce a rotating magnetic field when alternating currents flow through said two coils, by which the rotor is drivable, and the rotor shaft is mounted radially and axially, wherein the rotor (4) is mounted by at least one

elastic thrust ring (1a, 1b), with a first thrust ring (1a) being arranged axially on one side of the rotor (4), wherein the rotor (4) has at least one indentation (8) to accommodate a second thrust ring (1b).

31. (previously amended) The electric motor as claimed in claim 29, wherein the recess (14) and an indentation (8) in the stator and in the rotor (4), respectively, are in a form of truncated cones.

32. (previously amended) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein the stator (12, 13) has an axial stop (20), and wherein by said axial stop an axial movement of the rotor shaft (7) is limitable by said axial stop by absorbing the pressing on forces by the axial stop (20) when additional components are mounted on the rotor shaft (7).

33. (previously amended) An electric motor having a stator and a rotor, with the rotor having at least one permanent magnet and one rotor shaft and with the stator having at least two coils which produce a rotating magnetic field when alternating currents flow through said two coils, by which the rotor is drivable, and the rotor shaft is mounted radially and axially, wherein the rotor (4) is mounted by at least one elastic thrust ring (1a, 1b), with a first thrust ring (1a) being arranged axially on one side of the rotor (4), wherein a capillary gap (19) for holding lubricant is provided between the rotor (4) and the stator (12, 13).

34. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein the rotor shaft (7) is polished in a radial bearing region (10, 11).

35. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein the rotor (4) has a permanent magnet (5) embedded in a magnet mounting (6).

36. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein said electric motor has a rotationally symmetrical magnet which is rigidly connected to the rotor shaft (7).

37. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein the stator is in a form of a winding body (12, 13).

38. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 37, wherein at least two crossing coils are mounted on the winding body.

39. (previously amended) The electric motor as claimed in claim 38, wherein the alternating currents in individual of said coils have a phase separation which corresponds to an angle of orientation of the individual coils with respect to one another.

40. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 39, wherein the alternating currents are sinusoidal.

41. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 22, wherein a fan impeller (9) is mounted on the rotor shaft.

42. (previously added) The electric motor as claimed in claim 41, wherein the fan impeller (9) is pressed onto the rotor shaft (7).

43. (previously amended) The electric motor as claimed in claim 30, wherein a recess (14) and the indentation (8) in the stator and in the rotor (4), respectively, are in a form of truncated cones.